

Montessori Training Centre of British Columbia

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*In affiliation with the Association Montessori Internationale
Founded in 1929 by Dr. Maria Montessori*



Association Montessori Internationale (AMI)

Montessori Assistants to Infancy Course

*Qualifies you for the
Infant Toddler Educator (ITE) Licence to Practice
(In British Columbia, if you hold an ECE Licence to Practice, you will qualify for this Licence)*

Summer of 2009 and 2010



Montessori

...helping children develop in harmony with life.

"... we must never forget that man ... begins his mental growth at birth and pursues it with greatest intensity during the first three years of life."

Dr. Maria Montessori



AMI Assistants to Infancy Diploma

This internationally recognized Diploma is awarded by the Association Montessori Internationale to graduates of recognized training courses. These courses must meet rigorous standards, both in content and teaching staff. AMI diploma holders are in great demand both nationally and internationally.

Assistants to Infancy students are prepared to work with parents perinatally, assist with the infant at birth, prepare beautiful and responsive environments, work in infant and toddler communities in schools and day care settings, in hospitals - *wherever children under the age of three are found.*

Infant Toddler Educator Licence to Practice (ITE)

Graduates who hold an ECE Licence to Practice in British Columbia will qualify for the Post Basic Infant Toddler Educator Licence to Practice. Applications are sent to the Early Childhood Educator Registry, Ministry of Children and Family Development.

Website: www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/ece

Course Staff

Director of Training

Maria Teresa Vidales is one of only five AMI Assistants to Infancy (birth to 3) trainers in the world. She holds her Master's Degree as well as her AMI Diplomas for Assistants to Infancy (birth to 3) and Primary (3 to 6+).

Mrs. Vidales has collaborated on the Assistants to Infancy course in Colorado, co-directed courses in California and Japan, and directed courses in Texas. She is also an AMI consultant and examiner. Chacha, as she is known to many, has 25 years experience working with children including operating a Montessori school in Mexico since 1989.

Course Assistant

Merry Hadden holds her AMI Diplomas at the Primary (1977) and the Assistants to Infancy (1981) levels as well as a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. She has 16 years experience working with children from birth to 3 and their parents. Additionally, Ms. Hadden has worked as Course Assistant in Denver and San Diego and is currently in the Training of Trainers program. She is a certified Infant Massage and Child Birth Instructor for Respiratory Autogenic Training. Presently, Ms. Hadden directs a school in Florida.

Course Overview

- Montessori Pedagogy and Philosophy:
the natural development of the child from conception to 3 years of age.
- Anatomy and Physiology.
- Obstetrics: Prenatal, birth, and postnatal development.
- Nutrition and Hygiene: Maternal care, digestive system, food preparation, and health issues.
- Child Neuropsychiatry: The Nervous System and normal psychological development.
- Development of Movement and Development of Language.
- Environment: Preparation of the home and Infant Community as an aid to human development within the first three years of life.
- Music, Art, and Social/Emotional Development.
- Material Making: Hand made materials.
- Observations: practical training for observation of infants and toddlers in homes and infant communities.
- Practicum in a Montessori Infant Community directed by an AMI Assistants to Infancy Diploma holder.
- Preparation of reference & curriculum albums.

Requirements for Certification

The AMI Assistants to Infancy Diploma is granted upon satisfactory completion of the course requirements in:

- attendance at lectures and supervised practice
- 250 hours observation of infants and toddlers
- one week practice in a Montessori Infant Community
- material making assignments
- written assignments and research paper on the Symbiotic Period
- reference albums and resource manuals
- passing grades on written examinations
- passing grades in oral examinations conducted by Examiners of the AMI.

Course Calendar

The course is two summers with classes held daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Between the two summers, students must complete written assignments, arrange observations of infants and toddlers, and practice for a week in a Montessori Infant Community directed by a guide who holds the AMI Assistants to Infancy Diploma.

June 22, 2009 – August 21, 2009: week days 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The first summer's work begins with an overview of Montessori theory and practice, following the child's natural development and focusing on the period from conception to age three. Obstetrics, hygiene, and nutrition cover the anatomy and physiology of reproduction, fetal development, birth, health issues, and the puerperium (the first eight weeks after birth). We study the preparation of supportive and beautiful environments and their adaptation to the child's changing needs; emphasis is on the home and family environment, but easily applied to group settings.

Written assignments are handed in regularly throughout the summer.
The first summer ends with a written exam and conference.

2009 – 2010 September to June: The requirements are scheduled by the student.

Students complete 250 hours of observation of children from birth to three, at home and in group settings. Each student works with children in a Montessori Infant Community. If a visit is made by a course staff member, travel and lodging expenses are the student's responsibility. Observation assignments are handed in regularly during this period.

June 21, 2010 - August 27, 2010: week days 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The second summer adds a study of child neuropsychiatry and of environments for children from 12 to 36 months in an Infant Community (out-of-home setting), including appropriate materials and activities. Written assignments are handed in regularly throughout the summer.

Written and oral exams are given at the end of the second summer.

Admission Requirements

Preferably, applicants should hold a Bachelor's degree, a community college diploma or an Early Childhood Educator certificate. Exceptions will be considered on an individual basis. The completed application form and all related information must be forwarded to the training centre with the non-refundable application fee before an interview may be scheduled.

Tuition and Schedule of Payments

Non-Refundable Application Fee:

Canadian Students: \$150
International Students: \$250

Tuition Fee: \$ 8100

Due upon acceptance: Refundable deposit:	\$1100
Due: May 1, 2009 : First Installment:	\$4500
Due: May 1, 2010 : Second Installment	\$2500

Examination Fee: \$250

Due: May 1, 2010: \$ 250

AMI Membership Fee: \$50

Due: May 1, 2009: \$ 50

Post dated cheques for all fees must be submitted upon acceptance.

The MTC of BC reserves the right to cancel the course if minimum enrollment is not met.

Additional Course Expense

Students should budget approximately \$600.00 for books, supplies and hand-made materials.

Required Reading

By Silvana Quattrocchi Montanaro, M.D.

Understanding the Human Being: The Importance of the First Three Years of Life

By Lise Eliot, PhD

What's Going On In There

By Erik Erikson

Childhood and Society

By Asley Montagu

Touching

By Daniel Stern

The Interpersonal World of the Infant

By Louise J. Kaplan

Oneness and Separateness: From Infant to Individual

Medical Text

Books by Dr. Maria Montessori

Education for a New World

The Absorbent Mind

The Child in the Family

The Discovery of the child

The Formation of Man

The Secret of Childhood

Biography about Dr. Montessori

By E.M. Standing

Maria Montessori: Her Life and Work

Montessori Philosophy

Children enter the world gifted by nature. With the adult's help in preparing a beautiful, supportive environment conducive to the child's development, the child can carry out the important task of constructing his personality. It is a ceaseless and intense labor, carried out with great joy when assisted by the unconscious powers which nature bestows on the child during the first three years of life.

This was the great discovery that Maria Montessori made: *that the child creates himself as he interacts with the environment, revealing the person that he can become. That is the primary task of the child.*

Based on careful, systematic observation of children and their needs and interests at each level of development, the Montessori approach to early childhood education recognizes the tremendous developmental achievements of each child.

"...education is not something which the teacher does; it is a natural process which develops spontaneously in the human being."

Dr. Maria Montessori

The Montessori Training Centre of British Columbia is a non-profit society established in 1982 to meet the growing need for Montessori educators in Western Canada. Our purpose is to offer Montessori training courses accredited by the Association Montessori Internationale, headquartered in Amsterdam.

It is also accredited by the Private Career Training Institutions Agency of British Columbia. (PCTIA) www.pctia.bc.ca

Website: www3.telus.net/montessori

Association Montessori Internationale (AMI)

The Association Montessori Internationale was founded in 1929 by Dr. Maria Montessori in order to further the rights of the child in society and protect the integrity of the Montessori method of education. It is the recognized international authority on Montessori Education and directs studies in affiliated teacher training centres throughout Europe, Asia, North America and Australia.

AMI website: www.montessori-ami.org